

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 01801 251410Z

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ACTION NODS-00

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O 251137Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8725

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1801

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DEPARTMENT FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) BC
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KHAMA

REF: A) STATE 238082, B) SECTO 27356

1. TEXT CONTAINED IN BOTH REFTELS DELIVERED TO PRESIDENT KHAMA
BY CHARGE AT 1300 HOURS SEPTEMBER 25.

2. PRESIDENT ONCE AGAIN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY ENCOURAGED BY
THE SECRETARY'S SUCCESS IN CONVINCING SMITH TO ACCEPT MAJORITY
RULE IN RHODESIA, BUT THAT OF COURSE "THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING
WOULD BE IN THE THE EATING."

3. PRESIDENT KHAMA SAID HE WAS LEAVING THAT AFTERNOON (SEPT 25)
FOR LUSAKA, WHERE PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD CONVOKED A MEETING OF THE
"FRONT LINE" PRESIDENTS. HE STATED THAT THE NEXT STEPS WOULD
BE TO OBTAIN A CONSENSUS OF THE PRESIDENTS. IN ANSWER TO, THE
CHARGE'S QUESTION HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT PRESIDENT MACHEL WOULD
GO ALONG WITH THE PROPOSED SOLUTION, DESPITE HIS RHETORIC TO THE
CONTRARY. HE NOTED THAT MACHEL HAD BEEN "DOING HIS PART ALSO"
ALONG WITH THE OTHER "FRONT LINE" PRESIDENTS, TO HELP ACHIEVE A
PEACEFUL, NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM.
"UNLESS MACHEL HAS BEEN UP TO THINGS I AM UNAWARE OF", "SAID THE
PRESIDENT, "I THINK HE WILL AGREE TO BACK THIS SOLUTION".

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4. PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION THAT SMITH HAD

SPOKEN OF ACHIEVING MAJORITY RULE WITHIN (NOT AT THE END OF) TWO YEARS, AND THAT THE TONE OF SMITH'S REMARKS SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT HE WOULD HOPE THE TRANSITION COULD BE EFFECTED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE ALSO HOPED MAJORITY RULE COULD BE ACHIEVED QUICKLY, "BEFORE EVERYTHING FALL APART".

5. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PASS TO PORT LOUIS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE.

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To: STATE SS PORT LOUIS
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